

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NIC-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 SCCT-01 SY-05

USSS-00 AID-05 /078 W

----- 066838

O R 071225Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 596

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

CINCEUR

CINCUSAFE

CINCUSAREUR

USELMO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 439

CINCEUR FOR POLAD AND OPS

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD AND OPS

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD, OPS, AEAGC-COC AND AEAAG-AP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, G, WB, PINS

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SUBJECT: LORENZ KIDNAPPING: AFTERMATH

REF: USBERLIN 420

1. SUMMARY: POLICE DRAGNET INSTITUTED UPON LORENZ'S RELEASE HAS BROUGHT MEAGER RESULTS. LOCAL POLITICAL IMPACT OF EPISODE HAS BEEN TO CAST RETURNING LORENZ AS LOCAL HERO, IMAGE ENHANCED BY HIS HEAVILY PUBLICIZED PRESS CONFERENCE DAY OF RELEASE; GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ AND SPD SEEM TO COME OUT LOSERS, ALTHOUGH MONDAY-MORNING QUATERBACKS HAVE OFFERED SCANT ADVICE AS TO HOW THEY WOULD HAVE MANAGED CRISIS DIFFERENTLY. COMMENTATORS HAVE NOW BEGUN TO REFLECT ON LONGER-RANGE IMPLICATIONS OF KIDNAPPING AND ACCESSION TO TERRORIST DEMANDS, SUBJECT OF SEPTTEL. END SUMMARY.

2. ELEMENTS OF POLICE ACTION PLAN REPORTED USBERLIN 419 CONTINUE TO BE IMPLEMENTED, INCLUDING CHECKS ON EXISTS FROM WESTERN SECTORS BERLIN AND SOME FOLLOW-UP OF LEADS CALLING FOR FURTHER SEARCHES.

SEARCH OF 83 BUILDINGS AND NEARLY 4,000 VEHICLES RESULTED IN DETENTION OF 175 PERSONS, ALL OF WHOM RELEASED WITHIN 14 HOURS, AND SEIZURE OF VARIETY OF ILLEGAL WEAPONS, EQUIPMENT SUCH AS CAMERAS AND TYPEWRITERS WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN USED BY KIDNAPPERS, ONE AUTHENTIC BUT UNAUTHORIZED CAL LICENSE PLATE, AND ONE US MILITARY UNIFORM. 4,300 POLICEMEN WERE COMMITTED TO THIS EFFORT BUT HAVE TURNED UP NO IMPORTANT EVIDENCE OR PROMISING LEADS. WEST BERLIN POLICE HAVE BORROWED 589 POLICEMEN FROM FRG, WHO WILL BE ASSIGNED MAINLY TO FILL VACANCIES IN POLICE UNITS CONDUCTING SEARCHES AND TRAFFIC CONTROLS AND TO PERSONAL PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUALS BELIEVED TO BE ENDANGERED. POLICE HAVE ASSIGNED FULL-TIME BODYGUARDS TO 29 INDIVIDUALS AND ALL MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES AND PART TIME GUARDS TO 36 OTHER FAMILIES. DESPITE LACK OF EVIDENCE, POLICE BELIEVE KIDNAPPERS STILL IN BERLIN.

3. LORENZ IMMEDIATELY UPON RELEASE MARCH 5 PROVIDED POLICE WITH WHATEVER INFORMATION HE COULD RECALL FOR ASSISTANCE IN EFFORT TO APPREHEND KIDNAPPERS (DETAILED POLICE REPORT POUCHED CONFIDENTIAL

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EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT). AT 1:00 PM IN RATHAUS SCHOENEBERG LORENZ APPEARED AT ONE OF BEST ATTENDED AND MOST PUBLICIZED PRESS CONFERENCES IN BERLIN HISTORY, AT WHICH HE TOOK FULL ADVANTAGE OF SITUATION FOR BENEFIT OF CDU. LORENZ BEGAN BY THANKING HIS CDU COLLEAGUES FOR HAVING CARRIED ON SO WELL IN HIS ABSENCE. HE THEN THANKED GOVMAYOR KLAUS SCHUETZ, AND IN SAME BREATH, FEDERAL CDU CHAIRMAN HELMUT KOHL (WHO FACES ELECTIONS IN RHEINLAND-PFALZ ON MARCH 9). LORENZ DESCRIBED

HOW KIDNAPPING TOOK PLACE AND GAVE SOME DETAILS ON HIS ORDERAL AS PRISONER FOR SIX DAYS. HE NOTED THAT HIS KIDNAPPING WAS NOT ISOLATED CASE BUT COULD HAPPEN TO ANYONE, ANY PLACE, ANY TIME.

4. GOVMAYOR KLAUS SCHUETZ TOLD PRESS THAT TO NEGOTIATE WITH KIDNAPPERS AS WAS DONE IN LORENZ CASE WAS NOT WEAKNESS OF RECHTSSTAAT; IT WAS APPROPRIATE FOR CIVILIZED COUNTRY TO DO SO. SCHUETZ STATED FURTHER: "I AM THANKFUL THAT WE LIVE IN A STATE THAT PROTECTS THE LIVES OF EACH OF ITS CITIZENS AND DOES NOT SACRIFICE THEM TO A PRINCIPLE, EVEN WHEN THE PRINCIPLE IS A BASIS FOR OUR ORDER." DESPITE FACT THAT SCHUETZ, LORENZ, CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, AND OTHERS HAVE ALL STRESSED COMMONALITY OF EFFORT THAT SECURED HIS RELEASE AND NEED FOR CONTINUED COMMON EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE CAUSE OF SUCH CRIMES, AND DESPITE INABILITY OF MONDAY-MORNING QUARTERBACKS TO INDICATE JUST HOW THEY WOULD HAVE MANAGED CRISIS DIFFERENTLY, IMPRESSION HAS BEEN LEFT THAT SOMEHOW SCHUETZ AND SPD ARE LOSERS IN SITUATION.

5. TELEGRAM FROM CDU DEPUTY CHAIRMAN SCHMITZ, ON BEHALF OF LORENZ, THANKED ALLIES FOR ACTIONS ON LORENZ BEHALF, PARTICULARLY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RENDERED. POLICE PRESIDENT HUEBNER PERSONALLY THANKED ALLIED PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORS FOR ALLIED EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF QUICK RESPONSES TO POLICE REQUESTS AND FOR MILITARY POLICE SUPPORT IN CHECKING VEHICLE TRAFFIC.

6. COMMENTATORS HAVE NOW BEGUN TO FOCUS ON MORE FAR-REACHING IMPLICATIONS OF INCIDENT, E.G., CAPABILITIES OF SECURITY FORCES, ABILITY OF DEMOCRATIC STATE TO COPE WITH ANARCHISTIC METHODS OF ITS OPPONENTS, ETC. IN THIS CONTEXT LORENZ STATED AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE THAT FIGHT CONFIDENTIAL

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AGAINST TERROR AND VIOLENCE IS NOT JUST POLICE OR ADMINISTRATIVE TASK, BUT ABOVE ALL POLITIAL AND INTELLECTUAL EFFORT. HE CALLED ON UNIFIED EFFORT TO ELIMINATE RADICALISM DOWN TO INTELLECTUAL ROOTS. SEPTEL WILL WITH SOME MISSION REFELECTIONS.

7. USCOB CONCURS.GEORGE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING, TERRORISTS, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PGOV, PINT, PINS, WB, (LORENZ, PETER)  
**To:** STATE BONN  
**Type:** TE  
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